

In the Claims:

Amend claims 1, 8, 9, and 22; cancel claim 2; and add new claims 27 - 30 as indicated below:

1 (currently amended).        A measuring and storage container adapted to rest on a surface in a stable orientation of the container, the container comprising a plurality of compartments ~~for receiving respective portions of a substance defining respective maximum filling elevations in said stable orientation of the container, said compartments~~ having respective openings and bearing respective indicia indicating the position of at least one fill level, wherein said at least one fill level is at a level below the respective maximum filling elevation, said openings being configured so that a substance received by said compartments in a liquid state, filling the compartments to respective said fill levels, where said substance is thereafter frozen in said compartments into a solid state, can be emptied out of the container through said openings in the solid state.

2 (canceled).

3 (currently amended).        The measuring and storage container of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the container is formed of a plastic suitable for storing food.

4 (original).        The measuring and storage container of claim 3, wherein said compartments are integrally molded with the container.

5 (original). The measuring and storage container of claim 1, further comprising removable partitions defining said compartments.

6 (original). The measuring and storage container of claim 1, wherein one of said at least one fill level is at an elevation that corresponds to the elevation at which ice reaching said maximum fill elevation would contract when melted.

7 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 1, wherein said container has a top surface and a complementary bottom surface adapted so that multiple instances of the container are stackable so that each of said multiple instances of the container is retained in said stable orientation.

8 (currently amended). The measuring and storage container of claim 7, wherein each of said multiple instances of the container includes a respective lid adapted to snap-fit onto the container, ~~thereby providing said top surface~~ for sealing the container, said lid further adapted to receive said bottom surface to provide for stacking said multiple instances of the container.

9 (currently amended). The measuring and storage container of claim 1, further comprising a lid adapted to snap-fit onto the container, over said compartments, for sealing the container.

10 - 15 (cancelled).

16 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 1, wherein each of said compartments includes more than one indicia indicating the positions of respective distinct fill levels below the respective maximum filling elevations.

17 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 16, wherein the container is formed of a plastic suitable for storing food.

18 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 17, wherein said compartments are integrally molded with the container.

19 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 17, further comprising removable partitions defining said compartments.

20 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 16, further comprising removable partitions defining said compartments.

21 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 16, wherein said container has a top surface and a complementary bottom surface adapted so that multiple instances of the container are stackable so that each of said multiple instances of the container is retained in said stable orientation.

22 (currently amended). The measuring and storage container of claim 21, further comprising a lid adapted to snap-fit onto the container, ~~thereby providing said top surface for sealing the container, said lid further adapted to receive said bottom surface to provide for stacking said multiple instances of the container.~~

23 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 22, wherein said compartments are integrally molded with the container.

24 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 22, further comprising removable partitions defining said compartments.

25 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 21, wherein said compartments are integrally molded with the container.

26 (previously presented). The measuring and storage container of claim 21, further comprising removable partitions defining said compartments.

27 (new). The measuring and storage container of claim 4, further comprising a lid adapted to snap-fit onto the container, over said compartments, for sealing the container.

28 (new). The measuring and storage container of claim 3, further comprising a lid adapted to snap-fit onto the container, over said compartments, for sealing the container.

29 (new). The measuring and storage container of claim 16, further comprising a lid adapted to snap-fit onto the container, over said compartments, for sealing the container.

30 (new). The measuring and storage container of claim 25, further comprising a lid adapted to snap-fit onto the container for sealing the container, said lid further adapted to receive said bottom surface to provide for stacking said multiple instances of the container.